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2 March 1959

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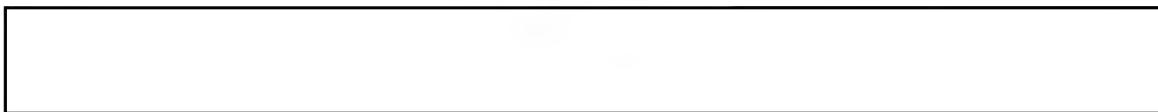
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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DAILY BRIEF

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

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USSR - East Germany: Khrushchev's visit to Berlin and Leipzig this week will probably feature discussions on a separate Soviet-East German peace treaty. Moscow would hope to use such discussions to increase pressure on the West for summit talks on a treaty with both German states. The Soviet press attaché in East Berlin, 25X1

25X1 has stated that a separate treaty would be negotiated but not signed during Khrushchev's visit. 25X1

NO 25X1
USSR: A Soviet Foreign Ministry official denied to the American chargé on 28 February that the trawler operating near Newfoundland was engaged in any actions which could have damaged the trans-Atlantic cables. He charged that there was, therefore, no basis for the US action in searching the trawler and that the United States had staged the trawler incident as a pretext for a hostile press campaign against the USSR. Moscow Radio has denounced the search party boarding as a "premeditated act of provocation" designed to intensify the cold war and worsen Soviet-American relations. 25X1 25X1

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II. ASIA-AFRICA

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Iran-USSR: The Iranian Government, in the face of Soviet propaganda attacks, is considering a formal denunciation of the 1921 treaty's Articles Five and Six, under which the USSR could claim the right to move troops into Iran.

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No
South Vietnam - Communist China: [South Vietnam has released the 82 Chinese Communist fishermen seized on Duncan Island in the Paracel Islands on 22 February. If Saigon does not give the incident further publicity, Peiping will probably limit its reaction to propaganda emphasizing the traditional Chinese claim to the Paracels.]

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DAILY BRIEF

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NO
India-Pakistan: India's decision to reduce defense services expenditures by 12.7 percent--from \$584,106,440 to \$509,638,000--in New Delhi's 1959-60 budget follows recent Pakistani defense cuts and should advance the recent improvement in relations between India and Pakistan. Karachi recently decided to cancel the planned purchase of three submarines, to scrap its only cruiser, and to cut defense imports.

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III. THE WEST

NO
West Germany - The Bloc: The opposition Social Democratic party will send a delegation to Moscow, Warsaw, and Prague beginning 10 May. Party Chairman Ollenhauer is extremely pessimistic over the Berlin situation and feels the only hope is for the United States and USSR to reach an agreement on Germany's future military status

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NO
Greece-Yugoslavia: Greek Premier Karamanlis intends to discuss the revival of the Balkan Pact at his 2 March meeting with Tito on the island of Rhodes. Belgrade currently desires to de-emphasize the military aspects of the pact in order not to provide propaganda ammunition to the bloc but would probably be willing to expand the pact's cultural and economic aspects.

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DAILY BRIEF

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

USSR - East Germany

Khrushchev, during his visit to Berlin and Leipzig this week, will probably seek to use discussion on a separate peace treaty with East Germany to increase pressure for East-West summit talks on a peace treaty with both German states. The Soviet press attaché in East Berlin, [redacted]

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[redacted] has stated that a separate treaty would be negotiated but not signed during Khrushchev's visit.

The East German news agency has reported that Ambassador Pervukhin on 1 March discussed the question of a peace treaty and the Berlin problem with Ulbricht and Grotewohl. The Kremlin has warned repeatedly since early February that it would conclude a separate treaty with the East German regime if no agreement were reached with the West on a treaty with the two Germanys. First Deputy Premier Mikoyan declared on 26 February that "if the Western powers will not conclude a peace treaty with Germany, which would also solve the question of West Berlin as a free city," the Soviet Union and other countries "will be compelled to sign a peace treaty" with East Germany.

While in Germany, Khrushchev will probably also discuss the transfer of Soviet quadripartite responsibilities in Berlin to the East Germans, particularly control over Allied military access to West Berlin. [redacted]

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Iran Considers Denouncing Parts of Soviet Treaty

A high-ranking Iranian Foreign Ministry official has confirmed earlier press reports that the Iranian Government is considering formal denunciation of Articles Five and Six of the 1921 treaty with the USSR. The official said a final decision is expected in about one week.

Under these articles the USSR could claim the right to advance troops into Iran in the event third countries "intend to pursue a policy of transgression in Persian territory or to make Persian territory a base for military attacks against Russia." Late in 1921, an exchange of notes acknowledged that Articles Five and Six referred to partisans of the Czarist regime and its supporters in foreign countries.

During the recent unsuccessful negotiations for a nonaggression pact, which later prompted bitter attacks on the Shah, the Iranian representatives held that this treaty no longer applied, but the Soviet delegation insisted on its continued validity.

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III. THE WEST

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Balkan Pact to be Discussed in Tito-Karamanlis Meeting

[Greek Premier Karamanlis] intends to press Tito at their meeting on 2 March for a definite yes or no on revival of the Balkan Pact

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[The Yugoslavs are currently very sensitive on the question of the pact. They are especially afraid that revival of its military aspects would provide ammunition for the bloc's charges that Yugoslavia, contrary to its pretensions of remaining outside blocs, is tied to NATO by virtue of its membership in the Balkan Pact. Belgrade also feels that a publicized revival of the pact now would undermine the basic purpose of Tito's tour of the uncommitted countries, as an exponent of "positive neutrality." For these reasons, Belgrade hopes to soft-pedal the military aspect of the pact but it wants to maintain and possibly even extend the pact's economic and cultural aspects.]

[The pact, composed of Greece, Yugoslavia, and Turkey, was ratified in 1953 and became a formal military alliance in the following year. Since 1955, however, when hostility arose between Greece and Turkey over Cyprus, the pact's military committee has had little to do, and the pact organization has concerned itself primarily with economic and cultural matters.]

[The recent Cyprus accord has removed a major obstacle to the pact's effectiveness and the recent worsening of Belgrade's relations with the bloc have made it seek improved ties with the West. While all three participants consider the continuance of the Balkan Pact to be in their interests, any renewed activity under the pact will probably not be publicized out of deference for Yugoslavia's difficult position.]

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